

THE DAILY HERALD

Published every evening, (Sunday excepted)
by the

Herald Printing & Publishing Co.,
(LIMITED.)

Fredericton, N. B.

SUBSCRIPTION: \$4.00 PER ANNUM.

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DAILY HERALD.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1904.

THE LIBERAL CONVENTION.

If anything were needed to prove the strength and enthusiasm of the Liberal party in New Brunswick and the pleasure its members feel at the elevation of Hon. H. R. Emmerson to a cabinet position, the evidence was furnished at the provincial convention of the party held yesterday at St. John.

The gathering was not only large beyond the most sanguine expectation of its promoters, but its representative character was most pleasing to the followers of Sir Wilfrid Laurier in New Brunswick. Men prominent in the party councils travelled from every constituency in the province to pledge their faith anew to the grand old party which has given Canada seven years of unparalleled prosperity, and which will continue to direct the destinies of the country for many years to come. From far away Madawaska, Victoria, Restigouche and Gloucester, from the centre, east and west of the province, sturdy Liberals gathered at the call of their honored leader, Mr. Emmerson, to talk over the situation, to organize for more effective work, to compare notes, congratulate each other on the triumphs of the past and plan for the success of the party in the future. No note of discord marked the deliberations of the convention, it went to the work in hand with determination and enthusiasm, and every Liberal present received inspiration from the brief association with his fellow workers in the various parts of the province.

Senator Kinz, the veteran Queens county politician, whose victories in the past were won under discouraging circumstances, made a model presiding officer, and he had the hearty co-operation of every delegate present in his efforts to dispose of the business before the convention, which beyond a doubt was the largest, and most representative party gathering ever held in New Brunswick. The stalwarts of the party were there, reinforced by prominent gentlemen who in the past have not been of the Liberal fold, but who, recognizing the patriotic policy and forceful administration of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, declared themselves in full sympathy with the aims and efforts of the Liberals to give Canada honest and successful government, and expressed their admiration at the wonderful achievements of the past seven years.

Hon. Mr. Emmerson, the new Liberal leader in this province, was given a most enthusiastic reception, and spoke most freely of the pleasure and satisfaction he felt at being so honored by the men who are the backbone and sinews of the Liberal party in New Brunswick. Strong resolutions endorsing Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his policy, and expressing satisfaction at the Premier's selection of Mr. Emmerson as the head of one of the most important positions in the government, were passed amidst the greatest exhibitions of enthusiasm, and the convention meetings were brought to a close by a magnificent public gathering at the opera house, where the Liberals heard eloquent addresses from Hon. H. A. McKeown, Mr. E. M. Macdonald, the popular federal candidate of the party in Pictou, N. S., and Hon. H. R. Emmerson.

Not the least satisfactory feature of the convention was the very hearty reception accorded to Premier Tweedie, Attorney General Pugsley, Hon. C. H. LaBelle and Hon. E. J. Sweeney of the local government who declared their faith in the Liberal party and their best wishes for its success.

It was a great day for Liberalism in New Brunswick, a proud occasion of

Mr. Emmerson, whose strong and attractive personality, whose sturdy partyism and whose eminent public services have endeared him to his co-workers, and have sealed and cemented party unity in every constituency in the province. Mr. Emmerson takes with him to the national capital, not only the unanimous endorsement of his own constituency of Westmorland, but the hearty, united support of the Liberals all over New Brunswick, who are to be congratulated on their early and absolute endorsement of his selection as the representative of this province in the government at Ottawa. The enthusiasm inspired by the convention will extend to every constituency in New Brunswick, and its results will be seen in the next federal election.

THE WAR.

The war between Russia and Japan which opened with a naval combat very disastrous to the former, has since developed nothing of special interest, but within the next few days it is anticipated that there will be engagements on both land and sea. The theatres of the land fighting will be in Manchuria and Korea, and in the latter the Japs are already preparing for defence against the Russian invasion. The Russian naval force in the east was sadly battered by the recent onslaught and the Czar's ships will not be able to make an aggressive campaign until reinforced.

In her formal declaration of war, Japan says it was against her expectation that she has unhappily come to open hostilities against Russia. The declaration continues: The integrity of Korea is a matter of the gravest concern to this empire, not only because of our traditional relations with that country, but, because the separate existence of Korea is essential to the safety of our realm. Nevertheless Russia in disregard to her solemn treaty pledges to China and her repeated assurances to other powers, is still in occupation of Manchuria, has consolidated and strengthened her hold on those provinces and is bent upon their final annexation. And since the absorption of Manchuria by Russia would render it impossible to maintain the integrity of China and would, in addition, compel the abandonment of all hopes of peace in the Far East, we were determined in those circumstances to settle the question by negotiations and secure thereby permanent peace.

Japan declares that Russia did not meet the proposals in a conciliatory spirit, but by wanton delays put off settlement from time to time, all the while strengthening her military and naval forces. The safety of Korea, Japan adds, was in danger, the interests of our empire were menaced and the guarantees for the future which Japan failed to secure by peaceful negotiations can now only be obtained by an appeal to arms.

Hon. Mr. Fielding made two important declarations in a speech at Montreal, Wednesday evening. He said there would be no general revision of the tariff this session, and that the transcontinental railway would be constructed whether it was done by the Grand Trunk or not.

The St. John Liberals have every confidence in securing the triumphant return of Hon. H. A. McKeown on Tuesday next.

A Question of Time.

"Do you take this woman for better or worse?" began the clergyman, but before he could proceed further he was interrupted.

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